SOFT ENOUGH.

"There, Mary Ann," said a gentleman from the interior to his spouse, as they were standing in front of a Woodward avenue hardware store on Saturday, examining the intricacies of a five gallon ice cream freezer that work with a crank and ratchet wheel, "there's a churn made on 'zackly the right plan. I swow, I'll bet you could fetch butter in one of them 'ere churns in five minutes. 'Taint big enough, though, for more'n two cows. Say, mister," to a clerk who at that moment came to the door yawning, "how ye got any bigger churns'n that?"

The clerk had been to a dance the night before, and could have gone to sleep in a quartz mill, but the inquiry made him wide awake in a instant. He turned and winked knowingly to his fellow-salesmen, as if to say, "Here's fun, boys." The boys gathered around and grinned with delight as the clerk placed his thumbs in the armholes of his vest, played a tattoo with his fingers upon his manly chest, and in his most grandiloquent and impressive manner replied:

"Your eyes deceive you, sir. That is not a churn. That, sir, is the greatest labor-saving invention of the age. That, sir, is the Snow washing machine; so-called because every article washed in it comes out as white as the driven snow, no matter how soiled it may be. Ran a pair of my dirty blue dye alls through it the other day, and they came out white duck. Jim, here, washed his conscience in it night before last, and is going to join the church next Sunday. Wash a yellow cur dog in that machine and he will come out a milk-white Spitz with his license paid and a collar around his neck."

"Sho! you don't say so! How does it work, and how much be they?"

"To a gallon of water you add a teaspoonful of our patent liquid soaporific. It has wonderful penetrative powers; removes every particle of foreign matter instantly, leaving the garments perfectly clean, and remarkably soft to the touch."

"Leaves 'em soft, eh?"

"Soft as butter!"

"Then I reckon you must a washed yourself with some of that 'ere stuff, mister."

And as the other clerks roared with laughter, the funny youth went to the rear end of the store to hunt up a skate strap for a very small boy, while the grainger remarked:

"Come along, Mary Ann, I kinder reckon that 'ere feller has changed his mind and don't want ter sell that 'ere churn, but it does look as if it 'ud bring the butter powerful quick."

A NICE YOUNG MAN.

A very high-toned looking young man, in exquisite mustache, loud plaid clothes, red necktie, low-crowned hat, straw-colored kids, and knitting-needle cane, walked into a tobacco shop and, throwing down half a dollar on the counter, said:

"Well, this is the worst town I ever saw; a gentleman can't get anything in it satisfactory, and I am utterly unable to see how a person of fastidious taste can live here. I say, Mr. Shopkeeper, can you sell a fellow a decent cigar?"

"Yes, sir," said the cigar man meekly.

"Well, then, fly around lively and do it. Don't you see that half dollar?"

"Yes, sir. What kind of a cigar do you wish, sir?"

"What kind?"

"Yes, sir."

"Why, look at me, sir, a moment, and see for yourself what kind of a cigar would suit me," and he drew himself up grandly and gazed down on the shopkeeper.

The shopkeeper looked and then took in the half dollar, got out a cigar and handed it to the man, with forty-nine cents change, and said:

"I owe you a half cent, sir, but I can't make change unless you take another cigar."

The nice young man looked at the shopkeeper, and then at the cigar, and then at himself, and without a single word walked out of the shop.—*Steubenville Herald.*

POWER OF THE PRESS.

One of the old-time editors of Michigan was boasting the other day that he had never been sued for libel, or attacked in his sanctum, but he could recall many narrow escapes. Twenty-five years ago he was running a red-hot paper on the line of the Michigan Central Railroad. A man named Carson, who was running for some county office, was given a bad racket, and the editor received a note that if he had anything more to say he might expect to receive a good pounding. He had a still more bitter attack the next week, and the paper was hardly mailed before in walked Carson, the candidate, accompanied by a brother and two cousins. The four were strapping big fellows, and each was armed with a horse-whip. The two compositors and the "devil" got out with all speed, leaving the editor without support. He realized the situation at once, and began:

"Walk in, gentlemen; I presume you have come to horsewhip me?"

"We have," they answered.

"Very well. Have you thoroughly considered this matter?"

"It doesn't need any consideration," replied Carson. "You have lied about me, and I'm going to flick you within an inch of your life."

"Just so, my friend, but first hear what I have to say. Did you ever hear of the press being stopped because the editor was cowhided?"

"I dunno."

"Well, you never did. Lick me all you choose and my paper comes out week after week just the same. The power of the press is next to the lever which moves the universe. It makes or breaks parties, builds up or tears down, plants or destroys. Aggravate the editor and the press becomes a sword to wound and kill. Wollop me if you will, but next week I'll come out more bitter than ever."

There was an embarrassing silence right here, and the face of each horsewhipper had an anxious look.

"It will go out to the world—to America, Canada, England, France—aye! clear to Jerusalem, that the Carson family of this county live on roots and johnny-cake; that they stole a dog from a blind man; that they murdered a peddler for a pair of two-shilling suspenders; that the women are club footed and the men work their ears when they sing; that the—"

"What is the regular subscription price to the *Herald?*" interrupted Carson.

"Only twelve shillings a year."

"Put us four down."

"Very well—six dollars—that's correct. Run in and see me—all of you, and if any of you want to see any of my Detroit exchanges I shall be only too glad to serve you."—*Detroit Free Press.*

THE ENGLISH SAMSON.

A man of great strength was William Joy, known in his day as "the English Samson." He was a native of Kent, having been born near Ramsgate in 1675. From an early period of his life he displayed remarkable strength and dexterity for his years, and when twenty-four years of age he began publicly to exhibit his astonishing feats. Among other of Joy's performances he is said to have been able to retain and keep in place a strong horse, urged by whip to escape his powerful rein, solely by the check of his pull, without any stay or support whatever. Aided by a strong leathern girdle or belt, and supporting himself by pressing his arms on a railing, he could lift from the ground a stone said to be a ton weight. He also broke asunder a rope fastened to a wall, which had previously borne more than a ton and a half weight without breaking. Notwithstanding his great strength, he was possessed of singularly agile and flexible joints, many wonderful stories being told of his feats in this respect, such as placing a glass of wine on the sole of his foot, which he could twist round with his hands, and conveying the glass in this way to his mouth without spilling.—*Chambers's Journal.*

AUSTRALIA'S DEVELOPMENT.

Ninety years have elapsed since the Australian colony was occupied by England. On the 26th of February, 1788, Captain Phillip landed there, in the capacity of Governor, and took possession of that continent, then wild and wholly uncultivated. He had with him a certain number of convicts, and at once set about the installation of a penal settlement. The world was very far then from foreseeing that this territory which is nearly equal to Europe in superficies, would in less than a century contain a population of 2,500,000 of whites, and that its annual commerce would amount £85,000,000, a sum nearly equal to that of Great Britain at the commencement of the last century. The colonists, taken as a whole, possess a revenue of £16,000,000, and the fields which, at the time of occupation, were peopled by kangaroos, now feed 7,000,000 head of cattle and 63,000,000 of sheep. The first great impulse given to the prosperity of the colony was the discovery of gold, but during the last quarter of a century many other and more lasting sources of wealth have been discovered in its agricultural and mining productions.—*London Exchange.*

Pleasure comes through, and not by self-indulgence and indolence. When one gets to love work, his life is a happy one.—*Ruskin.*

An Indianapolis exchange mentions that St. Jacobs Oil cured Mr. J. H. Mattern, a letter carrier of that city, of a severe sprain, contracted in the war.—*Detroit (Mich.) Western Home Journal.*

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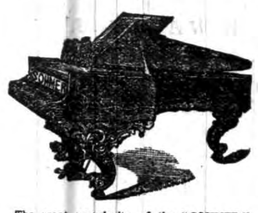
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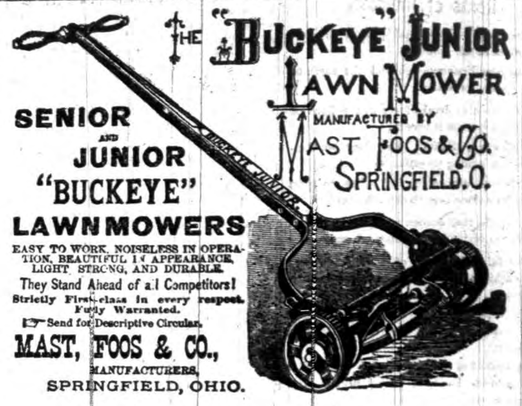
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